

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 53466/200

In re patent application of

Tadamitsu KISHIMOTO et al.

Group Art Unit: 1815

Serial No. 08/817,084

Examiner: F. VanderVegt

Filed: April 7, 1997

For: CHRONIC RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS THERAPY CONTAINING IL-6  
ANTAGONIST AS EFFECTIVE COMPONENT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED  
JUL 10 1997  
PATENT CUSTOMER  
SERVICE CENTER

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-8 without prejudice or disclaimer, and add the following claims:

-- 9. A method of treating chronic rheumatoid arthritis, comprising the step of administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutical composition comprising an interleukin-6 antagonist and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

91 10. The method according to claim 9, wherein the interleukin-6 antagonist suppresses abnormal growth of synovial cells.

11. The method according to claim 9, wherein the interleukin-6 antagonist is an antibody against interleukin-6.

12. The method according to claim 11, wherein the antagonist is an antibody against human interleukin-6.

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